

Remarks

Applicant notes that three Electronic IDS submissions have been previously submitted for this application, with the receipt of each IDS submission being acknowledged by the U.S. Patent Office. Two of the IDS submissions were acknowledged on October 29, 2002, and the third IDS submission was acknowledged on July 16, 2003. Applicant requests that the Examiner return the checked off forms indicating that these IDS submissions were considered.

The disclosure was objected to for an informality that is corrected by amendment. The objection may be withdrawn.

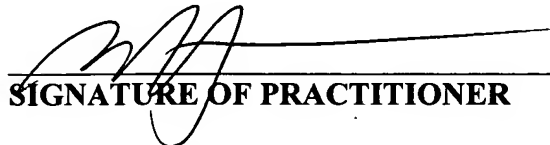
Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner asserts that limitations for the application platform do not have proper basis in the specification. In claim 1, the pertinent claim language reads:

an application platform configured to process a called number data structure, a routing data structure, and the telecommunication signaling information to select an identifier for placement in a header of the user communication, and to generate a control instruction indicating the identifier.

The application platform is described in the application on page 11, line 12, to page 12, line 13; page 13, line 25 to page 15, line 29. The application platform processes signaling information to select connections. (See the application, page 11, lines 12-13) The application platform uses data structures for call processing. (See the application, page 14, lines 3-4). The data structures include a called number data structure and a routing data structure. (See the application, page 14, line 28 to page 15, line 4). The routing data structure points to a trunk (connection), which can be an ATM virtual identifier (VPI/VCI). (See the application, page 15, lines 3-4 and lines 10-12). An interworking unit places the selected identifier in the header of the user communication. (See the application, page 7, lines 2-5). The interworking unit and that call/connection manager that includes the application platform are described in great detail throughout the lengthy specification. The rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-15, and 17-18 stand rejected for obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent 6,411,624. A terminal disclaimer is enclosed. The rejection can be withdrawn.

Applicants submit that there are numerous additional reasons in support of patentability, but that such reasons are moot in light of the above remarks and are omitted in the interests of brevity. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 1-18.



SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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